(a) how does Air India and Indian Airlines figure in terms of safety in comparison to the other airlines of the world;

(b) what is graded list of world airlines in this regard; and

(c) in what manner the airlines are graded in terms of their safety record?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI SHARAD YADAV): (a) to (c) There is no comparative grading of world airlines in terms of safety. However, Air India and Indian Airlines take action for ensuring safety as per the standards and procedures laid down for this purpose.

Infrastructure at Hyderabad Airport for importing plant materials

2554. DR. Y. LAKSHMI PRASAD: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Andhra Pradesh Government has urged the Central Government to provide infrastructure and staff at Hyderabad Airport for importing plant materials;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether Government have notified Hyderabad Airport as Plant Quarantine Fumigation Station; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI SHARAD YADAV): (a) and (b) The Government of Andhra Pradesh has urged the Central Government to establish a full fledged Plant Quarantine Fumigation Station at Hyderabad and also provide facilities for issuing import permits.

(c) and (d) In view of the trade requirements and plant quarantine risks involved in import of plants and plant materials from abroad, a regular plant quarantine station was set up at Hyderabad Airport during 1978. Since its inception, the stations has been undertaking inspection/treatment of the import plants and plant materials for consumption purpose only as well as for issue of phytosanitary certificates for export purposes. The Hyderabad Airport is not notified as a port of entry for the import of plant materials for sowing/ propagation. However, Plant Quarantine Station, Hyderabad has been authorized to issue only permits for the import of plants and plant materials meant for sowing and propagation.